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HAND BOOK

FOR THE

BATHS OF LUCCA

WITH PLAN OF THE PLACE

BY

W. SNOW

PISA
PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR
BY ROCH VANNUCCHI
1846.

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PREFACE

The Author of the following little compilation entreats the kind indulgence of those who may purchase his "Hand Book", for any trifling inaccuracies that perhaps have inevitably crept into it. — He presumes not to profess any literary merit in the undertaking: but conceiving a little Book of this description might be useful to the many Strangers who annually visit this favourite summer retreat, he has ventured to lay it before them.

Being a great admirer of the scenery surrounding the Baths, with its calm and peaceful valley; and having experienced under the Divine Blessing, most essential benefit to his health from its salubrious and renovating air, he has naturally expressed himself as he felt. He begs to say that an estensive

knowledge of the world in almost every clime for the last 15 years of his life has proved to him the truth of all he has asserted in favour of this delightful spot.

The Plan accompanying this Work is not meant as a *Scientific* one: it has only been roughly sketched for the present purpose. — The Author's abilities to make it better were so poor, and the time he could only spare from other necessary occupations was so short, that he hopes it will be accepted as it is. — The general position of the houses, mountains, and valleys, are laid down, he believes, accurately; but, at all events with sufficient exactness to give any Stranger an idea what to do, and where to go to, on arrival.

He has to return his grateful thanks to the kind friends who have assisted his efforts by purse and information, and also to acknowledge his obligation to the various sources whence he collected sufficient matter to fill up the body of his Plan. — To the talented and excellent Authoress of " Letters from the Bye ways of Italy " he is much indebted; as also to D. Cook, who kindly placed some private notes at the Author's service.

For any demerits in the Book, he begs distinctly to say that the compilation is his

own; devised, planned, and executed by himself solely, without deriving any other aid than what has been acknowledged.

In conclusion, he can only again respectfully plead for a lenient eriticism on this, his very humble production; and earnestly wishing that everyone visiting the Baths of Lucca may experience a benefit therefrom, he takes his leave.

Bagni di Lucca

March 3.rd 1846.

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Ch. 1.st.

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS

Few places on the Continent for a general *tout ensemble* can surpass the Baths of Lucca. They are the Baden Baden of Italy; and situated near the northern extremity of the Dutchy, in a pleasant valley enclosed by mountains covered with verdure and amid scenes of the most picturesque and romantic beauty not far from the highest-ridge of the principal Appennine range. — This great trunk of the Italian Alps runs about S. E. from the confines of Piedmont, and from it, shoot several minor branches, forming by their irregularity a number of wild gorges whose hilly sides are covered with oaks, elms, pines, and some of the noblest Chesnut trees in the

world. — Down the ravines intervening between one portion of these hills to the West rush many furious torrents which empty themselves into the *Lima*, and ultimately flow with that river into the *Serchio*. It is on the banks of this tributary stream that the Baths of Lucca are situated. — They are about 15 miles from Lucca, 52 from Florence, 43 from Leghorn through Pisa, 70 from Modena, and 30 from Viareggio.

Three villages comprise what is generally denominated the Bagni di Lucca. They are respectively called *Ponte a Seraglio*, the *Villa*, and *Bagni Caldi*; and contain a native population of about 1246 souls. — The two first are on the banks of the Lima; the last is on the brow of a hill overlooking the valleys below. —

The Lima, which rises near the *Abetone* mountain in the higher Appennines, rushes rapidly through the Valley of the Baths and joins the *Serchio* in a plain about a 1 $^1/_2$ mile from the Ponte a Seraglio.

The locality of the Bagni is comprised in a mountain district of about 2 square miles, and the position of the respective villages is nearly East and West on an air line with each other, though the road to two of them takes a wide detour, following the

course of the *Lima* for a mile round the base of a Mountain.

For situation, no better spot could have been met with on account of the opening in numerous vallies to admit a free and constant current of air. This considerably tempers the heat which might naturally be expected during the summer months in any part of Italy; nor does its effect during the winter prove so great a cause of cold as would be supposed. The mountain breezes as they sweep across the valleys in summer cool the air; while in Winter the villages are much sheltered from the keen blast by the ramparts of nature around them. Thus the two extremes are much avoided, and, unlike Baden Baden, which is more open, the narrowness of the valley becomes an advantage.

To begin, however, with a more particular notice and description of this place, I will proceed methodically; and introduce all of sufficient interest on the subject that I have been able to glean, without swelling this little book too largely. — And first with respect to aught of its generally received,

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HISTORY

An accidental visit of some Roman Soldiers many centuries back into the then almost wild and solitary valleys in the neighbourhood of the present Baths discovered the Springs of those Waters which have since given so much celebrity to the place. Returning to their companions with the news and no doubt, beneficial effects of what they had experienced a colony was speedily formed and located on the spots where now stand *Ponte a Serraglio* and *Corsena* . . . After the Roman period, when Italy began to divide herself into distracting factions in every state, we find in History that this retired valley had also occasional visits from some of the warring parties of the day. — Frederick II, Emperor of Germany, it is said, was among the number;

though, I believe, in a peaceable capacity. It wus somewhere about the year 1240, as at that period he was living at Pisa. — The only approach to the Baths then, was by a horse track. — After him, the celebrated Castruccio Castraccani made his appearance there in warlike array; and the fortress of *Lucchio* higher up the valley, is a memento of his progress.

No doubt the neighbourhood of the Baths about all this period was the scene of many a sanguinary fight; for, duvring the intestine commotions of the surrounding little republics (in 1292 especially) it is said, the whole district bordering on the Lucchese, Modenese, Bolognese, and Florentine territoires, and which was emphatically called " the *Mountain* " was covered with Castles belonging, to, either the families of *Cancellieri,* or *Panciatici:* the most powerful in Italy for wealth and arms, and who were mortally opposed to each other as Guelph and Ghibelline. — Other nobles also had possessions in this well cultivated and wooded district, and no sooner had they entered their Castles, says Sismondi, whose words I nearly follow, than they became sovereyns, and exercised despotic power over their vassals.

The Cancellieri, alone, had 100 men at

arms in their familly and though the district belonged to the little republic of *Pistoja* they cared nothing for its dominion. — Soon after Panciatichi's exile, they quarelled among themselves, and, dividing into two parties they fought against each other under the names of *Bianchi* and *Neri* with all the perfidy and ferocity of which the Pistoiese nobility were then accused. Mutilations assassinations and desperate battles from 1296 to 1300 followed in quick succession ande drew into their fierce bosoms men whose names have been handed down to posterity and immortalized for ever. = *Dante*, the historian *Dino Compagni* and the father of *Petrarca* were among them.

So continued [the middle ages in this place: and, more latterly there were also many changes and events occurring, though without much injury to the Bathing Establishments: until at length the present amiable Sovereign ascended the Ducal Throne, when the whole was established upon a more sure basis; and peace and harmony took up here its abode under his fostering care.

PHYSICAL, STATISTICAL, MUNICIPAL AND SOCIAL DESCRIPTION.

The Duchy of Lucca is 328 Italian square miles in extent, and the most densely populated conntry in Europe; containing more than 155,500 inhabitant. — It is divided into 12 *Communes* each under the jurisdiction of a Commissario or Gonfaloniere. Bagni di Lucca is in that of Controne, and owing to the fertility of the soil and geniality of the clime produces abundantly the good things of the earth. — The Vine flourishes, fruits abound, and herbage is plentiful. Botanists, Geologists, Naturalists, Philosophers, Artists, and Poets may here find constant employment for their time. In summer a thick forest of green foliage, where the vine appears not, clothes the mountain sides to their summits. In winter the earth is more clearly seen and the trees stand out in naked prominence, yet, not entirely devoid of interest through their different aspect. — Snow is seldom observed in the Valley, nor often on the nearer mountains. It is only the summits of the higher range that are covered.

The Mountains surrounding the Baths are dotted about in every variety of shape and

position: sometimes closely packed together with scarce an opening to be seen between them, but always intersected by numerous narrow, winding valleys through which pass a furious torrent, or, rapid stream. Commencing where the *Lima* joins the *Serchio*, a valley of about mile long running nearly East and West, and half a mile broad begins. — This gradually narrows at its extremity to within 300 yards, when it there divides into two branches; the smaller one ascending towards the N. E. and the other, keeping about an equal width, turns sharp round to the Southward.

For about one third of a mile it so continues, when it again gradually bends to the Eastward, and ultimately points its course North until it reaches the Villa, where it once more shapes a direction to the East and South. — The Plan therefore of the valley of the Baths is something in the form of a horseshoe, having in its interior the three villages and the mountain on which stands the *Croce di ferro*. — Through this valley the *Lima* runs, being joined by three tributary streams, between the Villa and the outskirts of Ponte a Seraglio. The first is a torrent descending swiftly through a narrow ravine from the higher parts beyond *Benabbio;* the second is opposite the suburb

of the *Cantone*, and is of a similar size and description. — The third stream is dignified by the name of a river, which is called *Cumaione*, and descends the narrow valley already mentioned as leading to the Nort East. It passes at the base of *Bagni Caldi*; and close to its junction with the *Lima* has a good stone bridge thrown across'it.

Entering the Baths from the Lucca road the visitor beholds on his left an elevated mountain crowned by a village called *Granajola*. Before him are still higher ranges, the lower of which are sprinkled with villages, and planted with vineyards and Ches nut trees. — On top of the central one, forming a back-ground to the Ponte, is the *Croce di ferro*; and lower down the same hill, but hanging at a height of some 300 feet above the valley, is *Bagni Caldi*. This mountain forms a projection from the rest, extending to the South West and terminating in a somewhat bluff Cape round which the *Lima* runs. — It presents a most cheerful and refreshing appearance when viewed on entering the place.

Turning the sharp bend which the road takes on first arriving at the village, the Traveller is next struck by the position of the contiguous mountains on the right which descend with but a few degrees inclination from the

perpendicular close upon the street, barely leaving room for the houses at their feet to be erected. — At a glance he perceives that everywhere is he in the bosom of a high and lofty region. Hills upon hills rise in quick succession at every turn he makes on his progress to the Villa, apparently shutting out all chance of farther passage in that direction: and when the main village comes in sight a wider expanse of plain is seen forming a shape not unlike an amphitheatre backed by the more elevated parts of these lower branches of the Appennines. — In this plain are situated many picturesque villas and detached cottages, besides the striking old village of *Corsena*, all lying on a cultivated and delightful ground spread out in variegated forms and patches.— On the right, crowning the summit of a hill, is seen *Benabbio*; and beyond the direction of the valley appear some other villages. — Thus the beholder finds himself enclosed by natures ramparts. Retirement and quiet seem to make their abode here, and calmness may be said to force itself upon the minds of even the most turbulent and restless.

In the 17 villages situated within th- *Controne* Commune are about 8000 soulse all of whom present the animated and health,

ful appearance of nature's mountain children. Among them are many whose term of life has stretched far beyond the usual span allotted to mankind. Longevity is common. — Families for generations past have lived together in houses built by their forefathers. Their children, on attaining strength go forth as Emigrants to far distant lands, where, toiling hard, they work with most enduring fortitude and patience, to enable them once again to return to the spot that gave them birth. — Who is there of English soil that has not met these wandering Emigrants engaged as Image Venders, or in other similar occupations? — Here then will be found their homes and families; and here can be seen among the many villages bordering the Baths and neighbouring valleys in the Lucchese State, the partners of these men waiting patiently, but anxiously, their return; and bringing up their children to count the days of that arrival which they know will — if God permits — take place. Some among them have returned perchance to roam no more; and therefore quietly settling down to a domestic life, they occupy their time in the various labours of a peasant race. — Many a worthy mountaineer has the compiler of this little book spent some pleasant

moments with; and often has he met among the market people and others at the Baths, one who conversed fluently in English and had a word to say of '*Inghilterra*'. — Yet, for all this intercourse with other countries and populous cities, the simple manners, excellent morals, and sterling natural character of these peasantry are not changed. Friendly and civil, they present a great contrast to the natives of other parts where there is an influx of strangers. — Besides their other qualities, I may add, that they are industrious, intelligent, orderly, and strict in respect of morals and attachment to their religion: and it is among such a class of persons, regulated — but not crushed by a most excellent Police, that the Stranger is invited to sojourn for a season — nay, even for the whole year.

With respect to the Police to whom I have just alluded, too much cannot be said in their praise. — Particularly civil and obliging to stranger they contribute to render the Baths a safe abode. Were robberies even attempted, by the skilful management of this force they would have a difficulty in succeding: and it is much to the addition of a visitor's comfort that he

should know, no disreputable or doubtful character is allowed to remain there.

Justice is most impartially administered by the Commissario, *Palazzo Comunale*, at the *Villa*. — *Sig. Vannini*, who now holds the situation, is a young Advocate of Lucca, a scholar, and a gentleman. — Under his orders, is a company of Carabineers, who patrole the villages and their vicinity to keep order. They are under the command of their Lieutenant, who is well known to the summer visitors as a most courteous, obliging, and civil officer.

As regards the Climate of the Baths, I know not — judging from past experience — how to say enough in its favour. — Compared with many other places that have been celebrated I consider it among the best. — It is exceedingly temperate and healthy, and subject to none of those uncertain changes which are met with in many favourite Bathing places. — At the height of only 555 feet above the sea, the Valley is not situated in too cold a region, at the same time it experiences a moderation of that heat which is known to exist in summer on the plains below. The weather too, generally speaking, is such as never to deter persons from their accustomed enjoyments out of doors. — With respect

to the actual degree of heat in summer I never found the Thermometer higher than 80 of Farenheit, and this was considered unusual. — In winter, the cold is not so severe as might be imagined. — Indeed I am only surprized that the Valley of the Baths has not been made a winter residence, especially by those who like air and healthy exercise. — In January last I can myself bear testimony that the weather was delightful and even warm where the sun shone upon the mountains. — The air was like summer in point of efficacy, and no symptoms of snow appeared excepting on the highest peaks of the upper mountains beyond *Prato Fiorito*. I ascended in that direction one morning, and felt, on the way, as if in the latter part of an English Spring. — Flowers were blooming by the road side, and nature in many places looked as fresh and green as ever . . . . . I found it the same wherever I went: and among the mountain villages I met nothing to denote any of that wintry *severity*, I had been led to expect.

Rain falls occasionally, and the cold is felt now and then, but not more so than should be reasonably expected anywhere. What then is to hinder this from being a winter residence to such as care not for

the noise and crowded state of cities? — Economy ean be practised if required. Firing is cheap, houserent too, and every thing else if sufficient inducement be given to procure it. " A want of society " it may be said " is a drawback ". But this at once is obviated if two or three families are disposed to stay. They can enjoy themselves in similar manner to the summer season. — Drives in the neighbourhood are always open; there is no impediment that way. — Pedestrian excursions on the mountains are helped by the coolness necessary and better for such undertakings: and what more conducive to health than this? — Social parties could be made among such residents: and in many other ways could a Winter be well, agreeably, and benificially spent here. — The native population, too, afford a source whereby much of *ennui* can be dispersed. — In winter they appear more themselves than in summer, and are seen in greater numbers. — One can certainly behold more of their true character, and better notice the real bent of their dispositions. — It is pleasing in the extreme to view a group of merry, blooming, and, even good looking maidens dressed in their best on a Sunday or *Festa* in winter, walking arm in arm, and gamboling in modest freedom with

each other on the road. It seems as if they had only now come forth, having been hid during the summer fearing the throng of strangers that crowded their valley in the season. — This and much more would tend to eliven a winter's residence here; and with an occasional jaunt to Lucca, or, even Florence now and then, the time might be passed most agreably with benefit derived in various ways, but above all, to health [1].

Another source of enjoyment at the Baths is derived from moonlight nights. — Though this is common to all Italy, and especially most beantifully experienced in the Bay of Naples, still such a scene as at this place is not often met with. — Seated on the Bernabo terrace, or, still higher up in the Arbour near *San Giovanni*, the view presented at such times is delightful.

[1] Half a dozen families wishing to pass a winter in social retirement, might establish themselves with comfort and economy in one of Pagnini's Hotels, which are furnished with fire places, carpets, and every necessary accommodation. — Residents in Italy might save a third of their usual expenditure by occasionally passing a winter in this manner. — The "Cercle" or Club, and the Library might be made use of: and with a good fire place there many a hour could be comfortably spent.

Ch. 2.nd

MODE OF REACHING THE BATHS, CONVEYANCES &c. &c.

Having given the position of, and principal features connected with, the Baths, I will now proceed to point out the various routes for travelling thither from the larger neighbouring Cities, supposing of course that the Traveller has already arrived in Italy. And first, from

MILAN. To *Parma*, passing through *Lodi* and *Piacenza*. From *Parma* to *Reggio*, where, turnoff to the right unto *Castelnovo* nei Mte. — Here the carriage road ceases, and a horsetrack continues to *Ospedaletto* on the summit of the mountains. Thence you descend by the Serchio valley to *Castelnuovo* and *Gallicano* to the Baths.

Or, from, *Reggio* to *Modena*, and then by agood carriage road, passing the villages of *Fomigine*, *S. Venanzio*, *Pavullo*, to *Pieve Pelago*; where you continue on the right over the mountains, and by *Tereglio* to the *Ponte a Serraglio*.

From FLORENCE by Lucca; or, by the mountains; a road for Pedestrians and Hor-

semen. — First to *Pistoja*, and then to *S. Marcello*, between which places there is nothing of any importance to be noticed. — At the latter is an English Paper manufactory worth visiting. — Here the carriage road is left, and a bye way proceeds by valleys, through gorges, and across ravines towards the Baths, passing the foot of a mountain on which stands the Fortress of Lucchio erected by *Castruccio* in 1320 and which has a romantic story attached to it. [1]

Next on the road is *Ponte Nero*, situated in a wild looking ravine. — It is a bridge of a single arch and is considered one of the *lions* belonging to the Bagni valleys. — Passing several villages prettily placed, the *Fabbrica di ferro* is arrived at; and here the carriage road again commences, continuing to the Baths, which are soon afterwards reached.

From Leghorn through Pisa.

Travellers arriving by sea and landing at Leghorn, must bear in mind that that town is a Free Port: and though any arti-

[1] This story, which is too long for a "Hand Book" is beautifully told in the "Letters from the Bye ways of Italy".

cle of foreign manufacture is admitted within its gates without tax, there is a duty charged on leaving.

From here there is a good railroad to *Pisa*; the Trains starting every 3 hours, and accomplishing the journey in 22 minutes. — On arrival at the Pisa, station which is outside the gates, vehicles are ready for a few crazies to carry passengers to the center of the town.

From *Pisa* yon may go to *Lucca* by *Diligenze* or, hired carriage. The Diligences start from Bartaleni's, *Piazza del Borgo*, every day at $^1/_2$ p. 9 A. M. and $^1/_2$ p. 3 P. M. on arrival of the trains from Leghorn, reaching Lucca in about 2 $^1/_3$ hours. The fare is 3, and 2, pauls. — Carriages mayalso be hired at Barteleni's, or, at Bernardo Borselli; 699 *Lung'Arno*, who speaks English, is very civil and trust worthy, and much employed by British Travellers. He exercises several functions, and has a Bureau where letters addressed to him meet with ready attention. His wife is a most excellent and fashionable dressmaker.

A railroad, now in progress, will, in a few months more be opened to Lucca.

At the frontiers of the two States there are Custom Houses or *Dogana*, where Traveller's baggage is searched, and Passports examined.— A few pauls saves all annoyance.

From Genoa, through *Pietra Santa*, a small town [1]; after leaving which the Horse or Foot traveller may save a distance of several miles besides a very steep mountain ascent, by taking a cross road to the *Bagni di Lucca.* — He passes the *Dogana Lucchese* about two miles from the last town, and in another mile turns off the main road to the small city (!) of *Camajore.* — From here the traveller must proceed to *Nocchia* 2 1/2 miles, *Convale* 5 1/2, *Pieggio* 2 1/2, *Ansanio* 2 1/2, *Decimo* 3 1/2, and *Borgo* 2, whence he will have to cross the *Ponte del Diavolo* and so join the main road from *Lucca* to *Ponte a Serraglio* about 2 miles from the latter.

Continuing, however, the Post road to Lucca, we come to the vicinity of *Viareggio* the *sea bathing* place of the Dutchy, and the marittime Port of the State. — It is 4 miles from the base of the Mountain, which formerly was washed by the sea, but that element retiring, has left a morass, over which a good road has been constructed

[1] It was built as a fortress in 1254 by the Florentines to shut the entry of Tuscany on the Ligurian side: and so named in honour of *Guiscardo Pietra Santa* a Milanese, who was the Florentine Podestà, and commanded their armies in the celebrated " Year of victories ".

to *Viareggio*. In the last century this place was but poorly tenanted, and consisted of a few fisherman's huts. Now, owing to the climate having been corrected, it has become of some note and contains a great number of inhabitants. They are chiefly employed as Sailors; and in the cultivation of the Rice grounds in the neighbourhood. — They are considered good seamen and I have seen them handling their picturesque craft when making for the entrance of the canal, with a good deal of dexterity. They export oil and bring back corn &c. — The vessels are not larger tham 70 or 80 Tons, as there is nodeep water for them to swim in. — The Anchorage is said to be good, and there is a canal runs up to the Dock. — A small wooden pier runs out to some distance, and affords a pleasant spot for idlers to lounge upon and view the fishermen drawing their nets. — There is every accommodation for Bathing and Boating. — The Pine Forest affords agreeable drives. — Lodgings can be obtained here on reasonable terms, and there are several good houses facing the sea. — Among others to be recommended is *Casa Gheri*.

Continuing the great Post road to Lucca, and leaving Viareggio to the right, in a few more miles the ascent of a branch of

the Appennines is commenced. Oxen are here required to assist in dragging the carriage over the mountain, and they are always in readiness. The roadis earried up in a zig zag form and like all in the Lucchese and Tuscan States is of excellent construction. — On getting two thirds of the way up a fine view is presented of the Plains below and blue Meditteranean, but which is lost on arriving at the summit. There is a steep and fatiguing pathway — almost perpendicular — for pedestrians, but the road is preferable. — From the summit, a gentler descent takes you to within two miles of Lucca, where a cross road proceeds to *Monte S.t Quirico* and on to *Ponte Moriano*; or, over the *Serchio* to the road between the Baths and the Lucchese Capital. This City however, may bealso avoided by keeping the carriage road, and taking a turning to the left just before reaching the walls. — For a description of Lucca see Murray's excellent Hand Book. —

The main road now commences to the Baths of Lucca; and it is reckoned one of the most picturesque drives on the Continent. — Carried on by the side of the *Serchio*, from which it is only divided by a strong embankment raised to prevent that river from overflowing, it proceeds for about

2 1/2 miles flanked by rows of lofty poplars.— It then slightly diverges from the river; and soon afterwards is seen on the right the road to *Marlia* where a country Palace of the Duke's and several residences of the Lucchese nobility are situated.

Four and a half miles from Lucca is a village bordering the river, over which is a fine bridge of good workmanship and solid construction. This is *Ponte Moriano*; and, having a rather steep ascent besides being flagged with stones it requires caution in driving over by conveyances coming from, or going to, *Monte S. Quirico.*

A mile beyond this place the mountains being to close upon the valley and present that romantic appearance which so much attracts attention. — Approaching them, the scene represented by such an uneven yet verdant barrier is most enchanting, and the Traveller actually *feels* that he is approaching the entrance to a new and different region from that he has left. — Emerging from their shade on journeying to Lucca the same feeling is experienced though perhaps more vivyfying and expanding.

Before arriving at their base is seen on the right the marble Mònastery of *S. Angelo*, situated at a good height and commanding a delightful prospect. The way up to it is

by a path behind some houses, and first traversing a narrow ravine.

Continuing to wind in and out, and around the feet, of several pasture covered mountains whose sides are sprinkled with numerous villages and pleasing hamlets: and passing two or three avenues of accacia trees the traveller next reaches *Ponte Decimo.* — This was an elegant structure, but, the inundation of 1842 swept away all except two arches, which only now serve to give an idea of its original beauty.

After 12 miles from Lucca a singular piece of architecture appears, in an ancient bridge called the *Ponte alla Maddalena,* or, more commonly *Ponte del Diavolo* or *the Devil's bridge,* and which here traverses a narrow gorge between the mountains on either side the river. — It consists of five irregular arches the center one of which is considerably more than equal to all the others spaced together. — The top of the arch is 60 feet from the water, while its span is 100. The breadth of this singular bridge is not more than 8 to 10 feet.

Nothing larger, or heavier than the light conveyances of the country can cross it.— The ascent is so steep as to incline from the Lucca road at an angle of 45 degrees, while on the other side it is still more.

Its erection is attributed to *Narses* the General of *Justinian.* — More certain information has ascribed it to Countess Matilda, sovereign of Lucca and Tuscany in the 11 th Century. — A popular legend has also fathered it upon his Satanic Majesty, who in this as well as many other matters, has problably more credit given him, than he is justly entitled to.

The town of *Borgo* is situated on the other bank of the *Serchio*, and is the emporium of the mountain commerce in silk, wool and hemp. It consists of a long row of houses extending on both sides the street for full $^1/_2$ a mile, and ending in an archway which probably serves the purpose of a gate. — The houses are good, and many even elegant; are at a low rent and possess many conveniences. There are a variety of shops, one or two manufactories, and some Convents.

About a mile beyond the Devil's bridge, the "meeting of the waters" takes place between the Lima and Serchio. — Opposite to this and on the right hand, under a Chesnut forest is a pretty fountain of delicious water cool as Ice. — It flows from the hill side through a marble *facade*, and descends into a Basin. — Shaded by shrubs and weeping willows the fountain

proves tempting, and invites the passer biy to quaff the pure element and repose.

A little farther on are the hamlets of *Fornoli* and *Chifenti.* — From the latter is a suspension bridge building over the Lima to conneet the roads leading up and down the Serchio valley.

From here to the *Ponte a Serraglio* is about a mile; and the traveller finds himself suddenly, as if by enchantment, in the midst of what appears a flourishing English Watering Place.

CONVEYANGES to the Baths are plentiful during the Season.

BY POST, the regulations are not in any manner different here to those of Florence and Lucca. — The distance from the former city is 8 $^1/_2$ *Postes*, and from the latter 2 *Postes.* — One advantage not generally known, is, that Post horses can be procured at the Baths the same as at any of the cities: that is, they can be had at the same price as though not having to be brought from Lucca. — To accomplish this you need only speak to Pagnini or any other Landlord, and it will be arranged.

Vetturini are easily met with in Florence or Lucca. — At the latter place they charge 10 Pauls for the conveyance of *two* persons to the Baths, but they will inva-

riably *ask* more. For a single person they look for the same sum. — They are to be met with about the Post Office and Piazza *S. Michele in Lucca. From* the Baths there are Vetturinis departing generally 3 or 4 times in a day.

Barrocini are to be found in numbers throughout the day during Summer, and in the morning during Winter in the *Piazza degli Scarpellini*, Lucca. A *Lira* is sufficient to give for each person, providing yon are not the sole occupant. — They are not very pleasant conveyances, as a severe, jolting of the frame is the attendant of a passage in one of them: still, they are not altogether amiss for a young or healthy man: especially one who minds not the having for his *compagnons de voyage* some of the rough, but characteristic natives of the mountains.

The season for visiting the Baths may be considered from the 1.st of April to the end of November. — The high season is from May to the end of September. — Pagnini's Hotel, the *Europa*, is open from the 1.st of March.

Ch. 3.

MINUTE DESCRIPTION OF THE BATHS.

Coming from the Lucca road the Traveller on entering the valley of the Baths passes round the foot of a mountain and is directly among the houses which form the village of Ponte a Seraglio. — This village is divided in two parts by the Lima, over which is an excellent stone bridge of one broad arch and of a width sufficient to admit of two carriages passing easily. — If the Stranger arrives on a summer evening, he is at once struck, on crossing this bridge by the gay scene that meets his view. — Before him is an open square, called the *Piazza del Ponte*, filled with equipages of every rich description; mounted equestrians of both sexes, and elegantly but neatly dressed ladies and gentlemen on foot, or seated around the square all engaged in the enjoyment of the moment, while a good Band plays for their amusement. Liveliness and sober gaiety seems to pervade; and he finds himself transferred into a scene similar to many of a like description in England.

A row of Trees with seats underneath adjoining the river form the foreground of the Piazza; while it is backed by a line of substantial looking houses with their white stuccoed fronts; the lower storys of which are converted into Shops and Caffees, and the upper are Let out for the accommodation of visitors.

Behind these and rising sharply above them, is seen the mountain, looking fresh and verdant to the eye. — On the right hand corner of the Piazza is the road to the *Villa*; but facing the square, on that side, is seen a neat looking house, also Let to strangers; the bottom part of which is the Post office. — Immediately opposite, on the left, is a large building of four stories high having its front towards the river, and its balconied side on the Piazza. — This — which seems more like the residence of a nobleman — is *Casa Cardinali* one of Pagnini's Hotels. — Turning by it, along the river, a neat erection is next passed, This is the " Cercle de Reunion " or " Club ". — Farther on, a chaste and pleasing European looking house of 3 stories high, facing the river, is arrived at. This is the Hotel de l' Europe. — Beyond this and nearly adjoining is the *Casino Reale*, an elegant and superior building constructed

by I. Pardine. — The facade is 120 feet long, with a portico having six Corinthian columns of white marble adorning it. — Two flights of steps in front lead to a terrace which affords an excellent promenade for the frequenters of this place. — The whole building is a beatiful piece of refined architecture.

From here the road continues over the *Cumiaone*, and is bordered en either side by a row of Trees, affording a delightful drive on summer evenings. — The view, too, here, of *Bagni Caldi* hanging on the hill is very striking.

Turning, however, to the right, along the stream last mentioned a road proceeds to the Hospital and Chapel annexed to it.— A pathway behind this building leads up the mountain to the Baths of Doccia situated just above the Hospital, and which, still ascending, reaches *Bagni Caldi.*

The Baths at this latter village are arrived at by passing under an arch way and following the road to what appears, and formerly was, a Convent. — Around them, above, and below, are several, pleasant and comfortable Houses to Let by the month or season.

Returning from the *Bagni Caldi*, a good carriage road proceeds by a winding des-

cent back to the Ponte; passing on the way *Bagni Bernabò*, which is most delightfully situated, and has a terrace built *up* on the very face of the mountain, and looking down on the valley and village completely at its foot. — There is a more steep but shorter pathway leading from *Bagni Caldi*; and also one to the *San Giovanni* Baths, higher up the hill on the right.

From the *Piazza del Ponte* you take the right hand road and follow the direction to the Villa passing the *Market*, *Hotels de France* ande *Croix de Malte*, and a row of several good looking houses, the last of which is *Casa Guidotti* formerly the *Hotel de Russie*, a large and substantial built mansion. — This is one of the principal promenades in the valley, and is truly a most beantiful drive. — The road is good, hard, and dry; and winding as it does round the skirts of a vine clad mountain on the one side while the *Lima* borders it on the other, with everywhere a varying and lovely aspect of romantic scenery, it forms a great addition to the many choice *agremens* to be met with. — It is garnished by a row of trees, equal in height, on either side; and during the summer it is watered in the day and well lit up at

nights. — The expense of doing this, and the other roads in the neighbourhood for the convenience of strangers is, I believe, defrayed by the Commune.

Near a quarter of a mile from the Ponte are two or three houses forming what is called the hamlet of the *Cantone*; and just beyond, but upon the other side of the road and built against the mountain is the Infant School of the *Società Pedagogica, Filarmonica.* — A little farther on, where the road diverges slightly from the river leaving a small space of level sward, is *Villa Brodrick* the residence of Colonel and. M.rs Stisted, who often pass the winter in this delightful and calm retreat from the busy world. — One might indeed almost envy them the peaceful happiness they here enjoy.

On approaching the *Villa*, which is about $^3/_4$ of a mile from the *Ponte*, the road divides into two branches; that on the left leading past the *English Chapel* to the *Ducal Palace* and *Bagni alla Villa*; while the other keeps strait on through the village. —

Let us first follow the former, which, beginning to ascend on a slight elevation passes *Casa Gregory* with some good houses belonging to the same proprietor, and the Dukés stables, where, it turns sharp

round and with a greater acclivity reaches a small square in which, facing the road is the Palace. — On the right of this square is a steep pathway for horsemen and pedestrians, which leads by a most pleasant and shady walk over the mountain to *Bagni Caldi*. It is a shorter, though perhaps more fatiguing way to the Church from that village than by the main road. — Round the *Piazza del Duca* are several large and commodious houses Let out by the season; many of them being occupied by the members of the Court when here.

Turning back towards *Casa Gregory* a gravelled walk takes you behind the Church to the main road again, after leaving on the left several paths and carriage ways leading to some good houses and beautiful gardens.

The *Villa* is nothing more than a long street bordered by a number of lodging houses and shops etc., having excellent gardens attached to them. — The first object noticed on entering it is the Hotel *Pelicano* on the one side, and the *Apothecary's* on the other. — Next comes the *Theatre* on the right, and some few yards farther the *Palazzo Comunale* where Justice is administered. — Pettini's Lodging and Boarding House on the left is also conspicuou s.

At the end of the Villa is a small road leading on the left to *Corsena*, where the village Church is worthy of attention as it is said to be very ancient, and contains some good pictures and monuments.

The main road now crosses the *Lima* by another stone bridge of a single arch, and is continued on its left bank up the valley towards the *Fabrica di Ferro*, where it becomes a mere mule track and is thus carried on to *San Marcello*. — Having previously mentioned it we will return to the *Ponte* by a shady and pleasant road, called the *Strada Letizia*, on the same side of the river, and which affords another excellent drive during summer. — It was constructed by the Princess Elisa, sister of Napoleon, and is bordered by the banks of the *Lima* on the one side and the ascending hills on the other, having rows of Accacia trees along its whole distance. It passes by the English Cemetery; over two furious torrents; by the side of a stream which has been turned off from the river for conveying water to some flour and paper mills, and meets the Lucca road in the western half of the *Ponte Serraglio* village.

This portion of the village contains little of note save one or two good houses, the Parochial Church, and Hotel *Nicolai*.

The next consideration of the stranger is, as to Hotels, and I will now, therefore, begin to describe them.

The first object that presents attention on turning the sharp bend of the Lucca road is a large oblong building on the right, and which has for inscription " *Pagnini's Hotel* ". — This is one of the three belonging to the same spirited Proprietor, and though not the largest is equally as comfortable and commodious as the others.— It is named the " *Casa Nicolai* " and has a small garden attached to it. — A Balcony looking upon this garden from the Hotel gives a most pleasing and refreshing appearance during the summer months. — It has accommodation for 40 or 50 beds if required.

The next is the " *Casa Cardinali* " forming one entire side of the *Piazza del Ponte.* — This is a handsome building containing 80 beds. — It is a pleasant residence during the season for those who delight in liveliness and bustle, as it commands a view of all arrivals, and the incessant gay evening scene in the Piazza.

Hotel de l'Europe comes next, and is able to make up about 30 beds. — Here, the Proprietor, *Sig. Pagnini,* and his wife (the latter of whom is a most praiseworthy

Englishwoman: her husband also speaking good English and French) constantly reside; actively superintending by their personal exertions everything that can adduce to the comfort and gratification of their numerous visitors at this and the two other Hotels. — Too much praise cannot be rendered them for their indefatigable assiduity in striving to give every satisfaction to Strangers. — The numerous testimonials given by the noblemen and gentry who have staid any time in Pagnini's Hotels, as also the high manner in which he is spoken of by every one, in print or private conversation fully warrant my strong recommendation. — His scale of charges are moderate; and the conveniences attached to his Hotels make them in many respects a more desiderable residence for some parties than even private lodging houses. — There is a Club room with a good Library &c. belonging to him and which will presently be described. He also sends *Hot* dinners to those who require them at Apartments. — A "grand remise" and stables are near the Hotel yet sufficiently far off to prevent any nuisance. *Pagnini* boards travellers by the week, month, or season: keeps a good *Table d'hote*, and charges for the servants of his visitors, half price, giving them fare

which no gentleman, even, of moderate wishes need despise.

The next Hotels are those of *de France*, and *Croix de Malte*. — These have not the celebrity among the English as those mentioned before but may safely be recommended. — Their Landlords have the reputation of being obliging and accommodating. — The Hotel de France had, or has, an excellent *Table d'hote*.

At the commencement of the Villa is *Orlandi's Hotel Pelicano*. — This is also a most excellent house, and able to accommodate several families. — The Proprietor and his wife have the reputation of being attentive and obliging and give every satisfaction. — Orlandi is also the Proprietor of a fine commodious Hotel at *Civita Vecchia*, the first good one ever established there, and a great comfort to Travellers either by sea or land.

We next come to *Gregory's*, near the English Chapel. — This is a neat and more retired looking building; particularly adapted for a quiet residence. It has the appearance of a private house; and, falling back from the road is eligibly suited for those who like to live secluded. — The Proprietor speaks French; is extremely civil and attentive to strangers; and not dear in his

charges. — He has an elegant little *Casino* close to his house, and some good stabling at some distance off. — Four other houses in the neighbourhood, in the midst of pleasure grounds, belong to him, and are Let out entire, or in suites of chambers during the season.

Besides the Hotels, there are one or two *Trattoria* at the Villa, and one at the *Bagni Caldi*, where persons can have a dinner sent them if they choose to risk its coming nearly cold.

Caffeés are sprinkled about in each of the three villages; but the best are the ones in the *Piazza del Ponte* and the entrance of the Villa, where — especially the former — most delicious *Ices* and *Caffee* can be obtained in the hottest days of the season.

The next point to be brought under notice is the subject of LODGING HOUSES. — Of these, there are so many, and so various, that to give the Stranger a rough idea where to fix himself according to the state of his purse, health, or habits, I have ventured, at some difficulty, to detail them separately; giving a hasty plan of their locality, and somewhat about the price generally demanded for their occupation. — It depends, however, greatly upon the season: therefore the terms I have mentioned

are only given as a rough guide. — The numbers given are in reference to the Plan. Unless mentioned, neither Plate, Linen, Coach-house or Stabling are supposed to be included for the terms stated.

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[illegible] since this book
was [illegible] what lower in consequence

ETC. ETC.

REFE[illegible]llars

N.° [illegible]60.

[illegible]00.

1 [illegible]15 *Coach Ho. etc.*
small lodgings

2 [illegible]*ay*

4 [illegible]*sconis*

11 [illegible] *- garden*

14

15

16 [illegible]*ach for* 30 *et* 40

21 [illegible]*udi*

20 [illegible]*scudi*

23 [illegible]*for about* 80

24

25 [illegible]*ith Stabling*

29

30

35 [illegible]*out* 200 [illegible]

36 [illegible] *of* 8 *rooms for* 100

37 *pleasant house*
for 160

[illegible]00 *- nolinen or plate*

4[illegible] [illegible]*e house for* 150 *- no*

4[illegible] *carriage way*

[illegible]*s* - 18 *rooms for* 200 -

4[illegible] *good winter residence*

[illegible]5 *- Stabling*

4[illegible]

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TERMS ETC. ETC.

Dollars

ors. 12 *Rooms for* 230 -
nce but Stabling etc. near
- 130 - *No carriage entrance*
90 - *d.*[o]
- 150 - *Linen, Co. Ho. & Stabling*
for 200, *lovely view & air - Co. Ho. & Stablig*
ries for 90 - *Co. Ho. & Stabling*
- *Coach Ho. et Stabling*
for { 200, 180, 120 } *No Co. Ho. or Stabling*

80
00 - *near the Raths*
50
00
40

) *to* 200 *each*
- 50
for 90 - *No Stabling*
0

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TERMS ETC. ETC.

Dollars

pt. Pakenham

Dr. Trotman

bout 150 or less

.° 100

market - 1 Floor - 4
Rooms for 45

r 150

- Large house - 42 Beds
Let out by Apartements etc.

al rooms - 150 - garden
on river side

l sized house - 250 - Co.
Ho. & Stabling

5

ich 10 rooms - All for 350
or 1.st for 200

s & Saloon for 200

8 Rooms for 350 - garden

Marchese Boccella

arge - for 300

200

ooms for 150

or 60 - garden

ooms etc. for 120

for 130

loors - 19 rooms for 300
- Co. Ho. etc.

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TERMS ETC. ETC.

Dollars

oms for 100
oms for 300
.⁰ for 310 *garden*
8 *Rooms for* 120
lways Let
- for 350 *Co. Ho. etc.*
0 - *excellent garden*
12 *Rooms for* 160
- for 300 - *Co. Ho. etc.*
.⁰ for 200
or 200
5

a Pension
20 - *Garden & Co. Ho.*
Garden
arden, Co. Ho. & Stab.
Garden

80 *with good garden.*

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Objects of Note.

The *Ducal Palace.* — This is situated on a platform cut out in the slope of the mountain, and is charmingly placed for obtaining a beautiful view of the valley before it; — the plain around the Villa with its picturesque scenery, and the back ground of rising hills beyond, with the river winding at their feet. It is a neat and plain, but not inelegant looking building, converted from an old Villa into its psesent state by the *Princess Bacciochi*, and is sufficiently large for the accommodation of his Highness and suite when he visits the Baths. — At such periods, Balls are often given in the Palace, the invitations coming through the grand Chamberlain, *Il Marchese Boccella.* — It is then that all the grace of a polished gentleman and courteous host is seen in the present reigning Sovereign; who, added to a general amiability of manners and the most affable demeanour to strangers, possesses that true nobility of soul which overlooks party feelings, and extends his friendship and protection to all. — The other members of his family are also celebrated for their excellent character. — The young Duke and his Amiable bride it is expected and hoped will,

this next season (1846) honour the Baths with their distinguished presence.

The English Chapel. — This is a chaste and elegant building erected in the Villa, detached from all other houses, and possessing that quiet neighbourhood which is so requisite to a place of religious observance. — Cypresses and other Shrubs grow around, and the adjoining patch of ground is tastefully laid out as a garden in *parterres.*

The history of this Chapel may be briefly given. Until the Year 1839, the English Protestants at the Baths, were without any regular building wherein they could perform Divine Worship. — In that Year the Lucchese Government kindly granted permission to supply this want; and contributions being speedily given by the British residents and others interested in its formation, it was in a few months begun: the appointed Trustees purchasing the piece of ground on which it now stands, for the purpose. — The Plan of *Sig. Pardini*, a celebrated Architect of Lucca who had visited England, was selected; and in a short time the visitors and annual frequenters of this valley had the great satisfaction of finding a place ready where they could meet together in devout prayer to Him, who, alone, could make their sojourn

there benificial to their health in body and soul.

The facade of this Chapel is that of a small Venetian Palace with Gothic windows and a Porch. — The interior is airy and capacious. Sentences from the Sacred writings with other characteristics of our religion are affixed to the walls and over the Communion Table in a neat and orderly manner. — The Pulpit and Reading desk are at the North end, while a Baptismal Font of pure white marble elegantly carved decorates the Southern extremity. — Backed seats for Subscribers, and chairs for occasional visitors fill up the intervening space, and present ample accommodation, for all who choose to enter this humble House of God.

The other portion of the Building is appropriated as a residence for the Clergyman, the Rev. C. Woodcock, who also officiates at the English Chapel in Pisa during the winter. — His duties are arduous, yet he has justly the credit of performing them in a truly evangelical spirit. — Divine Service is performed on Sundays from the beginning of May until October at 11 A. M. and 6 P. M., and also once or twice during the week; notice of which will be affixed to the Church doors.

The Cemetery attached to this Chapel is situated on the declivity of a mountain near its base, on the opposite side of the *Lima.*— Its position is well adapted for the purpose it is used, and is a calm, quiet and peaceful resting place for a last earthly home. — An avenue of Cypresses leads to the little chapel where the final services are performed; and one or two neat monuments around proclaim the spot where lay buried the bodies of those souls, who, it is hoped are now dwelling in a more bright and desirable world for ever.

One subject connected with this Chapel I cannot refrain from alluding to. When the original contract with the Builder was entered into, a sum was named for the fulfilment of it which appears to have been far short of what the Architect afterwards found necessary. — The result was, that after some little difficulty, it was completed at a cost far beyond what had been subscribed. — The consequence is that a heavy debt still hangs over the English Chapel, and subscriptions to relieve the pressure unfortunately come in but slowly. — Contributions are, therefore, earnestly solicited from those who may feel an interest in the welfare of this little but useful place of Divine Worship.

"Cercle de Reunion des Etrangers"

Is situated at the *Ponte a Serraglio* between the Hotels Cardinale and Europa, and has a large garden tastefully laid out for the exclusive use of the Members.

The "Cercle" was established by the exertions of some of the most respectable visitors of the Baths in the Season of 1841, who, finding a want of some quiet place where a few leisure hours might be spent together, personally solicited His Royal Highness the Duke and ultimately obtained his gracious sanction to the Establishment being formed. — Sig. Pagnini was them looked to, and he at once met their wishes by fitting up the present neat building.

A Committee is annually voted in by the subscribers present at the first meeting, who superintend the active management of the "Cercle" as to the Regulations, admittance of Members, &c. &c.: which make this a *select* and agreeable rendezvous for the *elite* and respectable among the frequenters of the Baths.

The "Cercle" consists of an Assembly room, Reading room, 2 Billiard rooms, and Refreshment rooms besides Antechambers.

There is an excellent Library of 1000

volumes which will be annually increased; and the Proprietor, wishing still more to add to the comforts and conveniences of the Subscribers has now engaged an Englishman as *Librarian* who will attend to the distribution of the Books and Papers &c. — Other servants are always in the rooms to execute orders.

The Establishment of the "Cercle" relieves the *Ennui* which used so much to be complained of, as Ladies, as well as Gentlemen can become Members, and have the advantage of reading the English Newspapers and Diurnal Journals of France and most of the Capitals of Europe.

Casino. Of this place I can say but little. I have before alluded to its beautiful appearance and have now only to add that the Interior is well and splendidly fitted up; and that some good Balls are occasionally given. — It is much frequented by the Italians and French, as also by a few of the English.

Societa' Pedagogico-Filarmonica

Under the Patronage of His R. Highness the Duke of Lucca.

This Society was instituted by several of the Italian Nobility and Gentry who are

It is no longer exists

in the habit of frequenting the Baths, for the purpose of affording the means of elementary education in Music and the other branches of useful knowledge to the native youth belonging to the Bagni Valleys. — It is supported by voluntary subscriptions; but as these do not prove sufficient, Bazaars, Concerts, Balls &c., are held every Season towards defraying the necessary expenses of this praiseworthy undertaking.

The object of the Society was to form a Band for the Public amusement; and, also, an elementary School for Boys and Girls.

The Society thought better to begin with the Band in order to give occupation to grown up persons who could not derive any benefit from the school. — This Band was presented to the Public last year; and were paid by the Government for their services. — The execution of their various performances reflects much credit on their masters and the promoters of the undertaking.

In order to accomplish the other promise of the Society, it has, since last year, began to form the Elementary School: and have established it half way between the Ponte and Villa, where a building is now (March 1846) being raised for that purpose, and

where the School will be opened in the course of the summer.

Some of the English have already tendered it their cordial support, and I am convinced many more will do the same when they become acquainted with the noble and benevolent intentions of the society, who are thus striving to place means of education and livelihood in the hands of those requiring it at the Baths of Lucca.

The *Hospital*, is situated in the valley of *Cumiaone* on the river side, in a gorge between two mountains, at the base of one of which it lays. — It was founded and endowed in 1826 by a truly philantropic Russian, the *Prince Demidoff*, a name which will ever be remembered in the valley as that of a most charitable and beneficent man. — Its position is said to be admirably adapted for the purpose its excellent founder intended; and that is to afford the benefit of the waters to Invalids belonging to other Hospitals. There is room for 50 or 60 persons; but no *sick* remain there. — Every month there is a change, so as to give relief to others who require it. — Baths are in the Hospital for the Invalids, who consist, also, of a few military sufferers. There is good medical attendance.

Not content with giving a Hospital, the Prince had a small, but exceedingly pretty

chapel constructed as an appendage to it. — It is situated on the opposite side of the *Cumaione*, which is crossed by a romantic looking bridge. — The stairs of the chapel are of marble; and the building itself is of a form presenting a somewhat unique appearance, especially placed whereit is.— The two are supported equally between the Lucchese Government and Prince Demidoff.

The *Post Office*, is in the Piazza del Ponte, and is a small place, only large enough for the reception and delivery of letters. — They are distributed, from *June to September*, every morning about $^1/_2$ past 9 or 10 *at the office*; and forwarded to their destinations daily at $^1/_2$ past 2. — After the beginning of Septr. the Post comes in at 6 P. M. — Letters are charged *by weight*, and must be paid to England, *otherwise they will not go*. — The average price for a light letter is about 2 Pauls. — As mistakes often occur, it is best to have letters directed in a very legible hand, or else, to the care of some one well known at the Baths, and the Orthography of whose name is rightly understood by the Post office officials.

Proccaccios, start to Florence and Leghorn every week conveying, at reasonable prices,

any parcels not conveniently sent by Post.— *Enquire of Cordon at the Ponte.* —

Theatre. There is one at the *Villa*, but only used by Amateur performers; principally among the native inhabitants during the Carnival.

The *Market*; is in the next square on the right of the Piazza del Ponte.. — Here is a good supply of *vegetables, fruit, poultry*, and sometimes *fish* during the season.— The remnants of what is not sold here in the morning will be brought to your doors during the day, unless you secure the regular call of a person, early. — There is one man comes regularly every morning from Lucca with a good supply, and he speaks English. — The prices of the different articles vary according to the season. —

Firing &c., is bought the best way by asking the *porteur* of the house to send a *marchand.* — *Wood* you will see pass daily from the mountains on the heads of the female peasantry who carry in this manner the most surprizing weight. — Butter and Milk is good and cheap, and can be supplied daily.— A very good Butter woman comes all the way from *Monte de Ville*, and is generally punctual to the time you want her. — *Water* has to be brought into your house at Bagni Caldi from the Fountains, and is

best arranged for when you take the Lodgings. A *Francesconi* a month is considered sufficient pay for whatever quantity is wanted.

Ch. 4.

INCIDENTAL INFORMATION.

The following is given as correct as could be possibly obtained; any irregularity or mistake, however, is requested to be kindly pointed out.

Agents. The only persons of this description, are, Signors *Pagnini*, *Gregory*, and *Orlandi*; who will promptly attend the execution of any Commissions they may be entrusted with: — *J. Cordon* at the Ponte, who readily undertakes anything of this kind; and *Morganti* in the piazza, who is a sort of *Valet de place*. — *The Author*, himself, at the Ponte, will be happy to afford any assistance in his power, either from personal application, or by letter addressed to him.

Bankers. — *Peverada*, Hotel Gregory, Villa. This gentleman has been several years established in business, and visits the Baths to transact money matters once a

fortnight. — His residence is in Pisa, at the Hotel Peverada, but Sig. Gregory manages here for him in his absence. — M. Peverada is well known to many in Pisa as a just and fairdealing man. — He has Agents in Florence &. Nice.

Plowden & French, Casa Cantone, Ponte a Seraglio, have houses in Florence and Rome. This firm is also well known, and hare been for some years established, conducting business in the most satisfactory manner.

Messrs *Macquay and Pakenham*, Casa Morganti, Piazza del Ponte, have branches in *Florence*, *Rome*, *Nice*, and *Siena*. — This is a highly respectable firm; and the partner attending the Baths is a honourable and courteous gentleman.

Physicians (Italian). — *M. Carina*, Casino, Bagni Caldi; is Director of the Baths — is well experienced — comes in June and stays until the end of September.

Signor del Re — comes for a month only, before M. Carina arrives.

Signor Giorgi	- Villa -	Remain the whole year round.
Signor Marchi	- Ponte -	Are employed by Government.

English Physicians. — *D.r Deakin*, at the Villa, Casa Gregory. — Has visited here 9 seasons from Rome — well known practice.

D.r Trotman, Casa Tista Muschini, Piazza del Ponte. — This gentleman has been here 5 seasons, practising during the winter at Florence; where, as well as here, he is well known as possessing much skill, and is strongly recommended.

D.r Saunders: was here last season, but I believe does not come this.

D.r Cook, Casa *Giuseppe Maria Lena*, Villa. — This gentleman is the resident English Physician at Pisa during the Winter; and is a member of the Royal Medical & Hunterian Societies, Edinburgh; and Author of a valuable little work on Consumption. His practical knowledge is excellent. —

D.r Squires. Villa, Is, I believe, also established in Florence, and is considered skilful.

APOTHECARIES. — *Pellegrini* at the Ponte — Medicines good — speaks English and is very obliging.

Adriano Betti at the Villa — Medicines good — Is particularly civil and attentive.

DENTISTS. — *D.r King* from Leghorn. — Enquire of Pagnini. — *Bartolomeo Vanni*, Ponte a Seraglio.

Professors of LANGUAGES. — Signors *Tolomei*, *Vannini*, *Guerini*, and *Barsottelli*.— The first of these is a most accomplished

gentleman. — He lives at the Villa. - M.r Vannini is at Pisa in the winter, having some good houses there to Let during the Season. — He teaches Italian exceedingly well through the medium of *English*, *French* or *Latin*, and is a gentleman much respected.

Drawing Masters; — Signor *Matraja*, and Signor *Bandoni*, both at the Villa. — The first is known as a very clever young man; and the latter has a number of pupils during the winter at Pisa.

Music teachers. — M.r Kraus, Pianoforte, and M.rs Jervis for singing.

English Store. — *Joseph Cordon's*, Ponte a Seraglio. Has always on hand a large supply of articles of all descriptions. — Foreign Wines, Spirits, Bottled Ale and Porter, Good Teas, Coffees, Sugars, Dried Fruits, English Cheese, Pickles, Sauces, Patent Medicines, Perfumery, Wax Candles, &c. &c. — M.r Cordon has been long established here in Summer, and is honourable and just in dealing, and most attentive in his manners. — During the Winter his business is at Pisa on the Lung' Arno.

Anguillesi at the Villa has a similar establishment and is very civil and fair in business.

Tailors. — *John Pay* — Next door to Cordon's — A good workman and fashionable tailor.

Pieroni, — Ponte — French Tailleur: — *Lena*, Italian Sarto; = *Bernardino* at the Villa.

STATIONERS. — *Aliprando Chiericoni*, Ponte a Seraglio near Hotel Nicolai. — Has a large assortment of Stationery, Drawing paper, Fancy articles &c. &c. —

Haberdashery. — French *Modiste* in the Piazza. One or two Bazaars also open during the season.

LIVERY STABLES. — *Huband's* — Strada Letizia, Ponte; and at the Villa near the English Chapel. — Horses are here taken care of by English Grooms; and an English Coachman of known worth is in attendance during the season. — The stabling is dry, and the horses are well attended. — Ladies and Gentlemen's Saddle horses always ready. M.r Huband lives in Florence during the winter, but is always here in Summer. — He is particularly attentive and accommodating.

Angelo Bartolotti, near the Hotel de France. — Carriages to Let with horses, but none for the saddle.

Samminiato has good stabling nearly opposite the above: and is a honest good Vetturino for long or short journeys.

FARRIER. — *Antonio Maschiane*, Strada Letizia.

WHEELWRIGHT. — *Gasparone*, Casa Guidotti.

Shoemakers. — One or two good in different parts of the Baths.

WASHERWOMEN; are numerous. — A very good one is *Marie Olievera* of Casa Olievera Bagni Caldi. — She speaks English well, and has lived in her youth for some years with the *D'Este* family, both here and in England: being with Lady Murray. — wife of the late Duke of Sussex and mother of the present Sir A. D' Este — at the time of her death. — She washes well and has strong recommendations for honesty, civility & cleanliness. Her husband is a good carpenter.

Carriages, for hire are at *Huband's* and *Bartoletti's.* —

Horses, *Ponies*, *Mules* and *Donkeys* are to be had from several of the native inhabitants. — *Lena* of the *Croce di ferro*, but always found at the Ponte and Villa has them at the following prices. — Mules, or Donkeys, 5 Pauls a ride, or 10 Pauls for an excursion. — He is a man that can be trusted as a good guide.

Servants. — Of these, there are few to be had at the Baths, if wanted. — English ones, of course, are scarce, nor are they very often required, because families gene-

rally bring them from England. Respecting this subject, there is somewhat to be said; though in a more fitting place than a "Hand Book". The Lucchese are looked upon as honest servants.

Bakers. — There are two, or three at the Ponte; and the same at the Villa. — Bread is good and about 6 or 7 soldi the loaf.

Butchers. — There are only two at the Baths; one at the Ponte, and one at the Villa. — No others are allowed to exist here, and the consequence is, that "will ye, or nil ye", whatever meat is in the shop must be put up with. — The result is that persons very often have to go without the particular joint or sort of meat they intended to have had for dinner. — Indeed it is a novelty to get what you want, unless previously ordered. — The best way in extra cases is to be supplied from Hotels. — The price of Butcher's meat is, *Beef*, 10 Soldi, *Mutton* 8 or 10 Soldi according to the joint wanted, *Veal* 12 Soldi to a Paul.

Measures and Weights, are the same as in Florence or Pisa. — The *Braccia* is about 2 feet English; and the *Libbra* is 12 ounces of our weight.

Money. — The coins of Italy are so numerous that it may well puzzle strangers to

know them. Bills at the Hotels are, however, made out in Pauls, Francisconis, and Francs. — For other disbursements the following small table may perhaps suffice. — Tuscan money is always current.

	L.	S.	D.
45 *Pauls* is = to about	1.	0.	0. ;
10 d.º or 1. *Francescone* = . .		4.	5. 1/3;
8 *Crazies* = 1. Paul = } 15 *Soldi*, Lucchese d.º = } . . .			5. 1/3;
1 *Crazia* is = to			2/3;
1 *Soldo*, Lucchese = ...			2/5;
1/4 *Fiorino* = 5 crazies = . . .			3. 1/3;
1/2 d.º = 10 d.º = ...			6. 2/3;
1 d.º = 2 1/2 Pauls =		1.	1. 1/3;
Piece of 1/2 *Francescone* =	0.	2.	2. 2/3;
« 1 *Lira*, Toscana = . . .			8.
« 1 d.º Lucchese = ...			8. 3/4;
« 10 *Soldi*, d.º = ...			3. 2/3;
« 5 d.º d.º = ...			1. 5/6;
« 2 d.º d.º = ...			4/5;

Commissione Edilizia. — Is a sort of Corporate body, formed by order of Government. It receives its name from the Romans who had institutions of this kind everywhere throughout their dominions. The *Edile*, or chief Magistrate, had to take care of all Public Buildings and other matters concerning the Public: to watch over them,

and to see that everything wasdone in a correct and proper manner to the mutual benefit of all parties.

The *Commissione Edilizia* is similar, and has the inspection and superintending of all plans intended for Public buildings, or Private houses when they come within its jurisdiction.

At the Baths, it is, I believe, composed of six gentlemen, the President of whom is the Marquis Boccella, Major Domo, to His Highness the Duke. It is in this capacity that he issues tickets for Balls held at the Casino.

Book Society. — There is attached to the English Church a Religious Library containing at present a very limited number of Books. — For more general reading Visitors can avail themselves of the *Pisan Book Society Library*, the subscription to wich is 2 Dollars. — The number of works exceeds 100, and every particular respecting it may be obtained from the Librarian at the Clergyman's residence.

Amusements.

Social Parties, are occasionally given at private houses.

Casino Balls. — These are given once every week in the high season, and are got up very well. — The rooms are splendidly lighted, and there is good performance in the *orchestra.*

Balls and Concerts at the Club. — These are *select*, and got up in a most elegant and pleasing manner. — They take place every week during the Season, while in its height, and are frequented by the subscribers and Members of their families or acquaintances; or, by parties having tickets of admission. — One annually takes place in behalf of the neighbouring poor, when the tickets are sold, and a subscription is raised to collect a sum for their relief.

Fancy Fairs, or Bazaars, are occasionally held for various charitable purposes, either at the Club or Casino. — They are managed very well and go off with proper spirit.

Races, are held in the month of August at the Villa. — A committee is formed from some of the sporting gentlemen at the Baths; and the romantic little valley is soon made the scene of a fashionable Horse Race; which being carried on in good fellowship and quiet spirit is attended by the fair and gay among the Strangers, the Inhabitants, and surrounding Peasantry of the neighbouring hills.

Promenades and Carriage drives. — These are so numerous that I need only say they are in every direction around the Baths. — The most frequented, are, The beautiful road from the Ponte to the Villa and back by the *Strada Letizia;* — on the *Modena road* to *Ponte Fegana* and back; — and to *Ponte al Diavolo* and back. — On either of these, carriages, and pedestrians may be seen, after the heat of the day, moving about in numbers.

The Band, plays in the Piazza every Sunday evening and *Festa* days, from June until September. — The scene here at that time is exceedingly gay and animating.— Crowds congregate to enjoy themselves, and night only ends the performance.

This Band is the one instituted by the Pedagogico and Filarmonica Society.

Pic Nic parties are very frequently made up to visit some of the *lions* in the neighbourhood. — To see one of these parties, one might almost fancy the good old times of Sir Roger de Coverly were come again and had settled upon the Baths. — First appears a native of the valley as an *avant Courier* to lead the way and act as guide, with a goodly store of provender lashed in panniers upon a mules back. — Then follow a brace of merry, healthy looking

maidens (perchance some young titled ladies) dressed in the very semblance of rustic loveliness, with Swiss hats placed jauntily upon their waving tresses, and escorted on their rear (for the path permits no more than two abreast) by an equal number of unfashionably dressed young Bachelors, who, in Peasant Hats and light Jean Blowses seem like country farmers. — Next come the Matrons of the party, and the more elder of the males, all casting from them, for the moment, both in dress and manner, the greater portion of their years and customary pride of bearing. — Mirth and Glee, natural happiness and true health shine among them; and thus a Pic Nic party, varying in number from half a dozen upwards, and occasionally proceeding, where practicable, in open carriages as well ason horseback, is often seen at the Baths of Lucca. — Of mornings, before the sun has climbed the mountains and peeped into the Vale below these parties begin to start; making their return under cover of the Evening shade.

Occasionally, even much earlier than this of a morning, can one meet various groups of ladies and gentlemen out for a walk upon the hills; and truly to judge by the rosy cheeks and sparkling eyes of

themselves and children, the exercise is most wonderfully benificial to them. — The heavenly air of morning here is worth a hundred prescriptions in England, backed by the like number of Apothecaries Drugs to help them.

Ch. 5.

THE PROPERTIES AND NATURE OF THE WATERS &c.

The sources of the Bagni waters are said to be in certain springs under the *Pratofiorito*; but they burst forth from the sides of the hill which rises at the back of the Ponte.

There are 10 sources of the Mineral waters; the principal being *Bernabo* with 8 Bath rooms of a temperature of 35° Reaumer: the old Casino or *Bagni Caldi*; — and the *Bagni della Villa* of a temperature of 33°. —

The waters act as gentle stimulants to the neucous membrane of the digestive organs, and consequently of the whole system.— Their good effects are most evident when the appetite is impaired and the stomach has lost its tone from simple irritation unac-

companied by inflammation. In scrofula, scurvy, hemorrhage, diseased states of the blood, hypochondriasis, longcontinued intermittents, affections of the spleen and liver and disorders of the uterine system: in calculous affections, gout and certain diseases of the skin they will be found of benefit.

The waters are taken *internally* to the extent of four or five glasses every morning, fasting; beginning with one of the Springs at the foot of the hill and gradually ascending; as, above, the water is hotter, and stronger. Its laxative action may be increased by the addition of ten grains of the sulphate of magnesia to each glass.

They all contain a portion of carbonic acid gas; the sulphates of lime, magnesia, alumine, and potash: Muriates of soda, and magnesia; and a small quantity of silex and oxide of iron.

Each Bath costs about 2 Pauls a visit, beside a trifling gratuity to the attendants, if their towelling and linen is required.

The Baths are all of marble, with douches, stoves for airing linen, and every convenience.

Excursions.

Pratofiorito. The ascent to this celebrated spot is by the *Bagni Caldi*; and the road

first winds along the face of a mountain at a height of about 300 feet from the valley below, while a forest of Chesnut trees rises sharply on the right. — As the valley ascends and becomes narrower the road declines to it until a bridge is crossed over the *Cumaione*, which now appears like a rugged thread forcing its way over rocks and masses of *debris* which have fallen from the adjoining mountains. This stream, however, when swollen by heavy rains or the melting of snow, is equally as ungovernable as the others in this hilly region, breaking down barriers, roads, and everything in its way.

About a mile beyond the bridge, the beaten track dwindles into a mere stony mountain path, which ascends, by a tortuous course on a sharp acclivity to *Monte di Ville*. Several houses here present a good appearance; and from their terraces is a fine prospect up and down the valley, with the Baths in the distance.

The track continues to ascend until the summit of the *Col* is reached, when it keeps more on a level, commanding most delightful views to the top of *Pratofiorito*. — This place is situated at a height of several hundred feet above the Baths, and placed thus in solitary beauty is indeed most remarkable. The name it bears, " blossom

field ", informs us of the nature of that vegetation here so abundant, and which consists of a most enchanting garden of flowers in every variety of hue; jonquils, gentians &c. in profusion. — The cause of such a beautiful singularity is said to be from the Bagni waters having theis sources under this spot. — During the winter it is generally covered with snow; but, in spring the budding flowers begin to peep forth in lovely display, maturing to their full growth and beauty by the period when visitors arrive in early summer.

Those who are fond of a sunrise view may enjoy the sight by arriving here very early in the morning. — There is a most varied and extensive prospect from here, and for which, alone, the visit would not be thrown away. — The distance from the Baths is about 5 miles and may be attempted either on *ponies*, or by the portantenis.

Gallicano. The road to this place from the Baths is on the right bank of the Lima and afterwards the Serchio, until the latter is crossed by a bridge near the journey's end. On the way, a new and handsome Ponte across the *Fegana*, is passed over; and just before this is seen on the right a road leading to *Tereglio*, a village worth visiting, and which is situated on the summit

of a steep mountain, hanging upon its brow in a surprizing manner. — The view from this village is good; there are some old paintings in the houses and churches; and the place itself is commemorated as once being occupied by the French. — A green sward close to the Dogana on the Modena road, which passes under the village, affords a picturesque spot for Pic nic parties.

Beyond the *Fegana* and before arriving at the *Ponte Calivorno* is the river and valley of *l' Ania* up which runs an ascending road to *Coreglia*, which has a castle much visited and is a place worth a jaunt to. — Enquire for *Ferdinando Antonini*, who speaks both English and French, if you want an attendant or guide.

Some few miles farther on the road to Gallicano turn off to *Barga*, an old Tuscan city situated about 10 miles from the Baths, and upon the top of a mountain. This is another place much worth visiting.

At *Gallicano*, — or rather one mile beyond it is a small chapel cut in a rock by Pilgrims of the earlier ages, and is an object of curiosity.

Lugliano. The path to this village is behind *Casa Giampoli*, *Strada Letizia*, and winds up the mountain through a forest of Chesnut trees, to the summit. — A celebrated Tree,

here, of about 200 years old, the branches of which are formed into an arbour, where seats and a table are fixed, sufficiently large for 12 persons to enjoy the pleasures of a *pic nic*, is the object which attracts attention. This, with an adjoining garden was made at the expense of the *Marchioness of Bute* who stayed here for some little period. — A fountain erected in the village, also bearsthe inscription that it was placed there by her munificence and that of *Lord Sandon.*

From the interior of the Arbour, can be seen, through the luxuriant foliage surrounding it, a most magnificent Birds eye view of the whole Baths, its valleys, neighbouring villages and all the adjacent scenery as far as the highest Peak of the Appennines. — The scene is beyond description, and appears more like a fairy picture than reality. — The same can be witnessed from the garden, but not to such effect as through the opening in the arbour.

One hour's walk, or carrying in a Portanteni, or riding on Ponies, will take you from the *Ponte to Lugliano.*

Granajola. Is a village on the top of a hill to the left when entering the Baths.— It has a fine view of the Ponte, and up the valley. — The path, which is steep and fatiguing, is behind *Casa Stefani.*

Benabbio on the mountain opposite the Villa is a village worth a jaunt to, if only to taste some exquisitely flavoured strawberries, and view an old Castello in its neighbourhood. — The path to it is by the English Cemetery and is about an hour's ascent.

Bargiglio. Is an old Roman Watch Tower on the summit of a conical mountain, whence the whole Duchy, the Blue Meditteranean and Islands are to be seen on a fine day.

The way to it is across *Ponte Diavolo*, by *Borgo* and *Oneta* and up a steep and rugged path to the summit.

Ponte Nero. To it, is a drive which many take during the Summer. I have already mentioned it in the route from Florence by *San Marcello.*

Croce di ferro, is situated on the top of a mountain rising as a background to the Ponte Village. — The Iron cross is erected on the highest elevation of the hill, and is placed in a square platform hedged round by a shrubbery of box trees. — The initials J. N. R. I. are cut out in the cross which stands here overlooking the three villages of the Baths. — Ponte Seraglio is seen below on the west, with the Lima tracing its way until it joins the Serchio; — in the opposite quarter is perceived the

Villa and its adjacent plain sprinkled with mansions and gardens; while the North embraces a picture of rising mountains covered with villages and hamlets, until the higher range is reached.

On the south of the Cross is a small grove of Catalbe trees with some singular workmanship of masonry in it.

The pathway to the Croce is either from the *Villa*, *Bagni Caldi*, or by *San Giovanni*.

CONCLUSION

There is nothing more the Author has to add for completing the present little publication. — Circumstances of a private nature compelled him to make the attempt of compiling it. It is hoped it may not be considered too bold a one. — Should it be favourably received, he will essay his hand at a different subject, and one more congenial to his tastes than the formation of a "Hand Book", though embracing the same locality. — However, that depends not on himself but on the kind indulgence of those who may, or may not, think him sufficiently capable of executing it.

Those, who, in a foreign country may have attempted to print a book in their native language, will easily understand the

difficulty, an Author wih slender means has had in getting this completed. — They will, no doubt, readily excuse what typographical errors may be seen; but to strangers who know not this difficulty, he has only to say that the task has been great indeed to get English properly placed in type. — Added to this, however, he has had many difficulties to encounter, and impediments to overcome, which few persons can be aware of, and which he never supposed would have been created; and he can only regret that he found this to be the case where he had, at least, so little expected it.

Once more reiterating the wish made in the preface, that every one may here enjoy the inestimable blessing of health, added to a calm and peaceful mind, he now concludes.

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